



# Dane County Area Genealogical Society News

June 30, 2007  
Volume 1, Issue 10

## Visiting the Dane County Historical Society on Thursday, July 12 Enjoy a Picnic and Fellowship

The DCAGS will be visiting the Dane County Historical Society at the Lussier Family Heritage Center at Lake Farm County Park on Thursday, July 12 from 5 to 8 p.m. (The meeting will be on the 12<sup>th</sup> to avoid a conflict with the July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday.)

Members are encouraged to bring a picnic at 5:00 p.m. We can either eat inside or outside depending on the weather. (The room is air conditioned.)

Beginning at 6:30 p.m. Debbie Kmetz, the cataloguing coordinator of the Dane County Historical Society, will show a sampling from the various collections – post office records, 4-H Club and Homemakers' Club

records and student newspapers from Central High students in Madison.

Join us for an enjoyable and informative evening.

Lussier Family Heritage Center

Park Address: 3101 Lake Farm Road, Madison

Park Entrance: 3101 Lake Farm Rd

Located in Lake Farm Park in the Capital Springs Centennial State Park and Recreation Area, this 10,000 square foot, multi-level facility is situated in an array of landscape types and recreational opportunities. The Lussier Family Heritage Center offers the community a flexible facility in a unique natural setting for meetings,



symposiums, artistic performances, private parties, weddings and receptions, and other special events. The Center is home to the Adult Conservation Team (A.C.T., the Dane County Park volunteers program), the Park's Naturalists, and the Dane County Historical Society.

**Regular DCAGS meetings are the first Thursday of each month at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints located at 4505 Regent, Madison, Wisconsin beginning at 7 p.m.**

\*\*\*\*\*

### DCAGS Update:

The DCAGS Governing Board meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. The next meeting is on Monday, July 16 at 6:30 p.m. South Park Library, 2222 Park St.. We invite all members to attend. Please join us!

## DCAGS Meeting Cancellation Policy

Due to unprecedented circumstances, DCAGS has cancelled two meetings this year because of the potential of severe weather. The DCAGS governing board has been reviewing this matter and

has come up a policy to deal with a cancellation if severe weather threatens. Here is the policy:

The Dane County Area Genealogical Society will consider canceling a

scheduled meeting if the Madison Metropolitan School District cancels school or authorizes early release due to severe weather conditions (e.g., blizzard, tornado, etc.)

Continued on page 2

### Individual Highlights:

Meeting Cancellation Policy – 1  
President's Message – 3

Genealogy Fair – 2

Upcoming Events – 3

## Genealogy Fair on September 8

---

**Puzzle of the Month** is a new feature. It is a great way to share what we know. A member may submit (on a 4 x 6 card) a basic puzzle and give it to a program committee member. At each meeting a new puzzle will be announced and any member can offer direction, an answer or you can bring the info to the next meeting. Each puzzle of the month will be printed in this newsletter as well as the answer/solution to last month's puzzle. Everybody learns! We don't have a new question this month, so we will be discussing the June question in July.

---

It gives me great pleasure to announce that the Fair Committee has confirmed four speakers for our fall Fair. Pat Stone and Pat Skubis will be giving Mini talks between our two guest speakers.

Beginning at 9 a.m., our Vice President Pat Stone will start the day off with a program titled "Basic Recording Methods for Genealogy."

Following Pat's presentation and starting at 10 a.m., our first guest speaker George L Findlen, CG<sup>SM</sup> will talk on "Using Traditional Histories to Find Your Ancestors."

At 11:30 a.m., I will be presenting the missed June program on "Gravestone Symbols and Their Meanings."

To round out the day, starting at 12:45 p.m., James Hibbard, Archivist at the Area Resource Center at the UW-Platteville will talk on "Records that Can Provide New Avenues for Research."

that are expected to continue into the evening hours. Should school not be in session, other community-wide cancellations may be taken into account. A decision to cancel a meeting due to severe weather conditions shall

Our exhibition hall will feature displays of seven vendors and at least ten area historical or genealogical Societies. From 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. there will be ongoing demonstrations of PAF, Ancestry and how to digitally preserve your videos and photos. Tours of the Family History Center will start at 9:30 a.m. and continue every half hour until the end of the Fair. Watch next month's Newsletter and our Web site for complete biographies on our presenters and more information on their talks.

Now in order to make the day a complete success we need your help. At our July meeting I will again be circulating a volunteer sign up sheet. But in case you do not attend the meeting this is what we need:

- 12 People willing to bake 2 dozen cookies or bars.
- 6-10 People to be refreshment servers starting at 9 a.m. up

until 2 p.m., you can choose to work either 1 or 2 hour shifts.

- 4 People to set up tables on Friday evening.
- 3 people to take them down (have 1 volunteer already); and
- 18+ People to be greeters, work at the registration desk and the DCAGS table.

If you are willing to help, contact me at [p318skubis@hughes.net](mailto:p318skubis@hughes.net). (Note the letter in between the 3 and the 8 is a little L not a 1.)

Posters will be ready to give out for distribution at our August meeting. We still need people to post them on the North & South side of Madison, Verona, Mt. Horeb, Waunakee, Sun Prairie, Belleville and Fitchburg. So if you live in or near one of these spots please pick up some posters in August.

Let's all chip in to make this a Great Event.

by Pat Skubis

## Weather Policy Continued...

be made by a majority of the Executive Comm.

The decision should be made by Noon if possible the day of the meeting and notice should be sent out to members ASAP by email as well as put on the DCAGS webpage.

Members can also check by listening to WIBA, 1310 AM and WOLX, 94.9 FM. Notice will also be sent to Channel 3 and Channel 15 TV stations.

We hope we are better prepared if there is future bad weather!

## Upcoming Events

### Expand Your German Research

When: Saturday, July 14, 2007

Where: Greenhill Center of the Arts, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Whitewater, WI

Featured Speaker: Larry O. Jensen of Salt Lake City, Utah

Sponsored by the German Interest Group-Wisconsin

Registrations postmarked by July 1<sup>st</sup> are guaranteed lunch and a syllabus. For more information and a registration form go to: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~wigig/index.html>.

### 2007 FGS Conference "Meeting at the Crossroads of America"

When: August 15-18, 2007

Where: Fort Wayne, Indiana

For full information, including the complete program schedule and registration materials, go to: <http://www.fgsconference.org/>.

WSGS is running a bus to the FGS

conference; it will probably stop in Windsor to pick up passengers from the Madison area. See [www.wsgs.org](http://www.wsgs.org) for more details.

### The Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International 11th bi-annual Genealogical/Cultural Conference

When: October 18-20, 2007

Where: Alliant Energy Center Exhibition Hall in Madison

Go to:

<http://www.cgsi.org/whatsnew.asp?intEventID=398> to learn more.

### The Illinois State Genealogical Society 2007 Conference

When: October 20, 2007

Where: Elmhurst, Illinois

### The Wisconsin State Genealogical Society Fall 2007 Seminar

When: October 27, 2007

Where: Wausau, Wisconsin

Featured speaker: J. Mark Lowe.

### "Death Beyond the Willows" Bus Tour

Author Greg Peck who will be one of our vendors at the Genealogy Fair, will narrate a third bus tour of sites in his book, "Death Beyond the Willows," for the Marshall Area Historical Society.

This tour, on Sunday, Sept. 16, is designed to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tragedy surrounding the book. It will include a tree-planting ceremony in Portage in memory of Johnny and Hazel Pirkel.

Peck of Janesville grew up in Marshall, where Pirkel of Marshall and Hazel Ferguson of Cottage Grove, were wed Sept. 27, 1927. They died in Portage that same day.

The tour will begin at noon at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Marshall, site of the wedding and funeral. It will take in key farms, homes and the Catholic cemetery in Marshall. The tour will journey to Portage for the tree-planting ceremony and a walk around Pauquette Park and "Bridal Pond." It will take in sites around Cottage Grove on the return trip. The tour should conclude between 6-7 p.m.

Cost for the bus trip is \$20 per person. Make reservations by contacting Romona Walker at (608) 655-3240. Send checks made out to the Marshall Area Historical Society to Walker at 545 Meadowbrook Court, Marshall, WI 53559.

## President's Message

Forecasted inclement weather prevented us from holding our regular June meeting. The decision to cancel was difficult, but when the University of Wisconsin (which almost never closes), Edgewood College, the city of Madison and Dane County canceled classes or meetings for the evening, it was the board's decision to follow suit. The storm fizzled. The hype had everyone on edge, but it did illustrate to the board the necessity for finishing the inclement weather policy.

So in the future, check our web site for cancellation notices or check the TV or radio stations mentioned in the new policy. Hopefully, we will not have any more incidents of bad weather on our meeting nights. If the forecasted weather is making you feel uneasy stay home, safety first is the best policy. The scheduled program on graveyard symbols and their meanings has been rescheduled to be one of the presentations at our Genealogy Fair in September.

Please read the article on the Genealogy Fair and the requests for volunteers. We need lots of help!

I hope to see all of you at our summer picnic on July 12<sup>th</sup>. Remember if it is hot, there is an air-conditioned area where you can eat. Bring you picnic supper and enjoy a chance to visit with your fellow genealogists.

Pat Skubis

### Volunteers Needed

For the Genealogy Fair.  
Contact Pat Skubis if you can volunteer for September 8.

Dane County Area Genealogical Society  
P.O. Box 5652  
Madison, WI 53705-0652



**Address Service Requested**

We're on the Web!

See us at: [www.dcags.org](http://www.dcags.org)



## Dane County Area Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 5652  
Madison, WI 53705-0652

---

# See you July 12

---

We have a new web  
address: [www.dcags.org](http://www.dcags.org).  
If you enter the address it  
will take you to the  
group's website on  
Rootsweb.

### DCAGS officers for 2007:

President  
Pat Skubis  
[p318skubis@hughes.net](mailto:p318skubis@hughes.net)

Vice President  
Pat Stone  
[rjstone@chorus.net](mailto:rjstone@chorus.net)

Secretary  
Joyce I. Nigbor  
[billyjoycenigbor@aol.com](mailto:billyjoycenigbor@aol.com)

Treasurer  
Jim Benes  
[JimBenes@iname.com](mailto:JimBenes@iname.com)

Past President  
Shirley Levine  
[shirts26@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shirts26@sbcglobal.net)

### Standing Committee Chairs

Membership  
William "Bill" Baures  
[bauresb@juno.com](mailto:bauresb@juno.com)

Programs & Education  
Joan Nagle  
[JWNagle@merr.com](mailto:JWNagle@merr.com)  
Fay Schoenemann  
[schoenem@wisc.edu](mailto:schoenem@wisc.edu)

Public Relations

Historian  
"Walker" Walker-Crawford  
[walker@viridis.ws](mailto:walker@viridis.ws)

Web Master  
Rollie Littlewood  
[rklittle@wisc.edu](mailto:rklittle@wisc.edu)

Newsletter  
Ruth Simpson  
[rsimpson@terra.com.net](mailto:rsimpson@terra.com.net)



Have a  
Safe and  
Happy 4<sup>th</sup>  
of July!